REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8 and 9 remain in this application. Claims 4, 7 and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 5, 8 and 9 have been amended.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and prior art. Applicants have amended the independent claims to place this case in condition for allowance.

The claimed invention presented in this Amendment is an improved call routing system that locates remote extensions of a restricted access multi-node cooperative telecommunication network that includes separate nodes as private branch exchange platforms such as installed in different offices of different enterprises forming the limited access multi-node cooperative telecommunications network. Each private branch exchange platform has a separate dialing plan. Each node forming a private branch exchange platform has a copy of its dialing plan only for its own node and no other nodes. Each communication device connected to a node has an extension within a respective dialing plan for that node.

A technical problem that the claimed invention addresses is associated with number portability such as when an extension moves between nodes where the movement of that extension from one node to another is likely to cause routing

problems because each node has invalid data until its location information is updated.

An example of this technical problem is seen in FIG. 1 in which extension 356 that is normally associated with the dialing plan for node C is now part of node D.

The claimed invention is advantageous and does not require each node to have a copy of the dialing plans for all other nodes and each node need only have a copy of the dialing plan for itself. Each node does not have to concern itself with the accounts of other nodes and thus, each node would not possess possible out-of-date information.

This is accomplished in accordance with the claimed invention in which a query message is transmitted from the first node to all other nodes in the network and is operative to determine whether a respective node receives the query message coupled to the call device. At a second node to which the call device is coupled, a reply message is transmitted to the first node indicating that the second node is coupled to the call device such that other nodes not having the call device coupled thereto are not transmitting a reply message. In response to receipt of the reply message by the first node, the call from the first node is routed to the second node such that the second node may complete the connection of the call to the call device without requiring a copy of the dialing plans for all other nodes.

It should be understood that the other nodes do not send out a reply message and no copy of dialing plans are required for other nodes.

The claimed invention is opposite from the cited U.S. Patent No. 6,647,264 to Sasamoto, which discloses that routers transmit back a paging message to the corresponding wireless access network if the specified mobile station is not found in the memory for requesting a reply from the specified mobile station. This is in contrast to the claimed invention in which the other nodes to which the call device is not coupled would not send out any type of paging or reply.

Sasamoto is directed to solving a different technical problem using a different technical solution in which mobile devices in a cellular network must be located. Sasamoto provides less delay when locating a destination mobile data terminal and performs a faster handover operation. Sasamoto has nodes sending back a paging message. Routing tables are updated in the mobile routers corresponding to the nodes as compared to the claimed invention in which each node does not have to concern itself with the accounts of other nodes. Columns 5 through 7 of Sasamoto describe the use of the page request, which is also specifically claimed in Sasamoto Claim 3. Each of the routers is arranged to transmit a paging message to the corresponding wireless access network if the specified mobile station is not found in the memory for requesting a reply from the specified mobile station.

As to the cited Moriyama, it teaches a private branch exchange (PBX) as an automatic call distributing (ACD) system, but there is no dynamic registration or assignment of individual stations within their network's automatic call distribution systems as a PBX. There is nothing to disclose or suggest the movement of a voice station from one ACD space PBX to another and automatic resolution of where to route a particular call.

The combination of Sasamoto and Moriyama would motivate one skilled in the art to form a wireless private branch exchange with a group of wireless nodes that would require all nodes transmitting back different paging messages among all nodes and the updating of all nodes for faster mobility and faster handoff.

This is not the claimed invention as presented in this Amendment.

Applicant contends that the present case in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance and issue fee due.

If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing the case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

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